

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee

I have come to speak in favor of the effort to repeal Citizens United. Proposal HJ-3

My main point to support this is that the intent of Citizens United decision was to enhance free speech but the actual result is that it suppresses access to speech by making it too expensive for all but a few special interest groups or wealthy individuals. The chance that an individual with limited resources maintaining majority status is slim.

I thought it was ironic that the first major victim of Citizens United was Newt Gingrich. A little over a year ago he was the leading Republican candidate for President having won South Carolina and with a healthy lead in Florida. Then he was hit with a blitz of negative ads made possible by Citizens United and outspent 18 million to 6 million. He came in second in Florida and had few resources left to continue a competitive campaign. The Republicans probably lost their most elect able candidate due to Citizens United.

Repealing Citizens United would also I believe be good for most businesses because if they were not allowed to venture into the mucky world of politics they wouldn't and the money saved could be reinvested in their businesses creating jobs rather than squandered on political campaigns that if they do bring results are at the expense of some other business or us the true citizens.

Thank You
Mario Hasz

Spoken
3/18/13